IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 21, 31, 32, 39, 43, 46, and 49 are amended herein.   All pending claims and

their present status are produced below in the Listing of Claims:

Listing of Claims

1-20.   (canceled)

21.   (currently amended)   In a settlement server capable of communicating over

Internet with a local Internet service provider and a home Internet service provider, a [[A]]

computer implemented method for settlement of charges for Internet connection services,

comprising:

the settlement server receiving, from [[a]] the local Internet service provider over the

Internet, accounting records of a user's Internet connection service usage of a

network of the local Internet service provider, the local Internet service

provider operated independently from [[a]] the home Internet service provider

of the user, the user not having an account with the local Internet service

provider but having an account with the home Internet service provider and

connecting to the Internet via the local Internet service provider;

the settlement server filtering the accounting records to remove erroneous data;

the settlement server collecting the accounting records for a period of time;

the settlement server generating a report of service usage for the period of time; and

the settlement server transmitting the report of service usage to the home Internet

service provider over the Internet.

22.   (previously presented)   The computer implemented method of claim 21, wherein

generating a report of service usage for the period of time comprises:

3   categorizing the accounting records by the home Internet service provider; and

4   aggregating the accounting records corresponding to the period of time.

1   23.   (previously presented) The computer implemented method of claim 21 wherein

2   generating a report of service usage for the period of time comprises:

3   categorizing the accounting records by the local Internet service provider; and

4   aggregating the accounting records corresponding to the period of time.

1   24.   (previously presented) The computer implemented method of claim 22, further

2   comprising:

3   categorizing the accounting records by the user.

4   25.   (previously presented)   The computer implemented method of claim 23, further

5   comprising:

6   categorizing the accounting records by the user.

1   26.   (previously presented)   The computer implemented method of claim 21 wherein

2   filtering the accounting records to remove erroneous data comprises:

3   removing duplicate records.

1   27. . (previously presented)   The computer implemented method of claim 21 wherein

2   filtering the accounting records to remove erroneous data comprises:

3   removing irrelevant data from the accounting records.

1   28.   (previously presented)   The computer implemented method of claim 21 further

2   comprising:

3   multiplying the time period the user was provided service by the local Internet service

4   provider by a rate corresponding to a rate negotiated by the user's home

5   Internet service provider.

1   29.   (previously presented)   The computer implemented method of claim 21 further

2   comprising:

3   categorizing the time the user was provided service by geographic location; and

4   multiplying the time in each geographic location by a rate corresponding to charges

5   for service in each geographic location for the user's home Internet service

6   provider.

1   30.   (previously presented)   The computer implemented method of claim 21, further

2   comprising:

3   categorizing the time period the user was provided service by the local Internet

4   service provider; and

5   multiplying the time the user was provided service by the local Internet service

6   provider by a rate corresponding to charges for using the local Internet service

7   provider for the user's home Internet service provider.

1   31.   (currently amended)   A central settlement server for settling charges for Internet

2   connection services, the central settlement server capable of communicating over Internet with a

3   local Internet service provider and a home Internet service provider, the central settlement server

4   comprising:

5   a loader for receiving, from [[a]] the local Internet service provider over the Internet,

6   accounting records of a user's Internet connection service usage of a network

7   of the local Internet service provider, the local Internet service provider

8   operated independently from [[a]] the home Internet service provider of the

9   user, the user not having an account with the local Internet service provider

10   but having an account with the home Internet service provider and connecting

11   to the Internet via the local Internet service provider;

12   a filter, coupled to the loader, to generate filtered accounting records by removing

13   erroneous data from the accounting records received by the loader; and

14   a reporting module, coupled to the filter, for generating reports from the filtered

15   accounting records to be sent to the home Internet service provider over the

16   Internet.

1   32.   (currently amended)   A central settlement server for settling charges for Internet

2   connection services, the central settlement server capable of communicating over Internet with a

3   local Internet service provider and a home Internet service provider, the central settlement server

4   comprising:

5   a loader for receiving, from [[a]] the local Internet service provider over the Internet,

6   raw accounting records of a user's Internet connection service usage of a

7   network of the local Internet service provider, the local Internet service

8   provider operated independently from [[a]] the home Internet service provider

9   of the user, the user not having an account with the local Internet service

10   provider but having an account with the home Internet service provider and

11   connecting to the Internet via the local Internet service provider;

12   a raw records database, coupled to the loader, for storing the raw accounting records;

13   a filter, coupled to the raw records database, to generate filtered accounting records

14   by removing erroneous data from the raw accounting records stored in the raw

15   records database; ~~and~~

16   a roaming history database, coupled to the filter, for storing the filtered accounting

17   records; and

18   a reporting module, coupled to the roaming history database, for generating reports

19   from the filtered accounting records to be sent to the home Internet service

20   provider over the Internet.

1   33.   (previously presented)   The central settlement server of claim 31, wherein the

2   reporting module further comprises:

3   a rating means for adding service rate information to the accounting records.

1   34.   (previously presented)   The central settlement server of claim 31, wherein the

2   loader further comprises:

3   a transformation means for arranging fields in the accounting records into a

4   predetermined format.

1   35.   (previously presented)   The central settlement server of claim 31, wherein the

2   filter further comprises:

3   a means for removing duplicate records.

1   36.   (previously presented)   The central settlement server of claim 32, wherein the

2   reporting module further comprises:

3   a rating means for adding service rate information to the accounting records.

1   37.   (previously presented)   The central settlement server of claim 32, wherein the

2   loader further comprises:

3   a transformation means for arranging fields in the accounting records into a

4.   predetermined format.

1   38.   (previously presented)   The central settlement server of claim 32, wherein the

2   filter further comprises:

3   a means for removing duplicate records.

1   39.   (currently amended)   Computer readable storage device having computer

2   readable code embodied thereon, the computer readable code for programming one or more

3   computers to perform a method for settlement of charges for Internet connection services <u>in a</u>

4   <u>settlement server capable of communicating over Internet with a local Internet service provider</u>

5   <u>and a home Internet service provider, the method</u> comprising:

6   <u>the settlement server</u> receiving, from [[a]] <u>the</u> local Internet service provider over <u>the</u>

7   Internet, accounting records of a user's Internet connection service usage of a

8   network of the local Internet service provider, the local Internet service

9   provider operated independently from [[a]] <u>the</u> home Internet service provider

10   of the user, the user not having an account with the local Internet service

11   provider but having an account with the home Internet service provider and

12   connecting to the Internet via the local Internet service provider;

13   <u>the settlement server</u> filtering the accounting records to remove erroneous data;

14   <u>the settlement server</u> collecting the accounting records for a period of time;

15   <u>the settlement server</u> generating a report of service usage for the period of time; and

16   the settlement server transmitting the aggregated accounting records to the home

17   Internet service provider over the Internet.

1   40.   (previously presented)   The computer readable storage device of claim 39,

2   wherein generating a report of service usage for the period of time comprises:

3   categorizing the accounting records by the home Internet service provider; and

4   aggregating the accounting records corresponding to the period of time.

1   41.   (previously presented)   The computer readable storage device of claim 39,

2   wherein generating a report of service usage for the period of time comprises:

3   categorizing the accounting records by the local Internet service provider; and

4   aggregating the accounting records corresponding to the period of time.

1   42.   (previously presented)   The computer readable storage device of claim 39,

2   further comprising:

3   multiplying the time the user was provided service by the local Internet service

4   provider by a rate corresponding to the rate negotiated by the user's home

5   Internet service provider.

1   43.   (currently amended)   In a settlement server capable of communicating over

2   Internet with a local Internet service provider and a home Internet service provider, a [[A]]

3   computer implemented method for settlement of charges for Internet connection services, the

4   method comprising:

5   the settlement server receiving, from [[a]] the local Internet service provider over the

6   Internet, accounting records of a user's Internet connection service usage of a

7   network of the local Internet service provider, the local Internet service

8   provider operated independently from [[a]] the home Internet service provider

9   of the user, the user not having an account with the local Internet service

10   provider but having an account with the home Internet service provider and

11   connecting to the Internet via the local Internet service provider;

12   the settlement server generating a service usage report based upon the received

13   accounting records; and

14   the settlement server transmitting the service usage report to the home Internet service

15   provider over the Internet.

1   44.   (original) The computer implemented method of claim 43, wherein the accounting

2 records are received from the local Internet service provider over the Internet using User

3 Datagram Protocol (UDP).

1   45.   (original) The computer implemented method of claim 43, wherein the service

2 usage report is transmitted to the home Internet service provider over the Internet using File

3 Transfer Protocol (FTP).

1   46.   (currently amended)   A central settlement server for settling charges for Internet

2 connection services, the central settlement server capable of communicating over Internet with a

3 local Internet service provider and a home Internet service provider, the central settlement server

4 comprising:

5   a loader for receiving, from [[a]] the local Internet service provider over the Internet,

6   accounting records of a user's Internet connection service usage of a network

7   of the local Internet service provider, the local Internet service provider

8   operated independently from [[a]] the home Internet service provider of the

9   user, the user not having an account with the local Internet service provider

10   but having an account with the home Internet service provider and connecting

11   to the Internet via the local Internet service provider; and

12   a reporting module for generating service usage reports from the received accounting

13   records and transmitting the service usage reports to the local Internet service

14   provider over the Internet.

1   47.   (original)   The central settlement server of claim 46, wherein the loader receives

2   the accounting records from the local Internet service provider over the Internet using User

3   Datagram Protocol (UDP).

1   48.   (original)   The central settlement server of claim 46, wherein the reporting

2   module transmits the service usage reports to the home Internet service provider over the Internet

3   using File Transfer Protocol (FTP).

1   49.   (currently amended)   A computer program product stored on a computer

2   readable medium and adapted to cause a computer to perform a method for settlement of charges

3   for Internet connection services <u>in a settlement server capable of communicating over Internet</u>

4   <u>with a local Internet service provider and a home Internet service provider</u>, the method

5   comprising:

6   <u>the settlement server</u> receiving, from [[a]] <u>the</u> local Internet service provider over <u>the</u>

7   Internet, accounting records of a user's Internet connection service usage of a

8   network of the local Internet service provider, the local Internet service

9   provider operated independently from [[a]] <u>the</u> home Internet service provider

10   of the user, the user not having an account with the local Internet service

11   provider but having an account with the home Internet service provider and

12   connecting to the Internet via the local Internet service provider;

13   the settlement server generating a service usage report based upon the received

14   accounting records; and

15   the settlement server transmitting the service usage report to the home Internet service

16   provider over the Internet.

1   50.   (original)   The computer program product of claim 49, wherein the accounting

2 records are received from the local Internet service provider over the Internet using User

3 Datagram Protocol (UDP).

1   51.   (original) The computer program product of claim 49, wherein the service usage

2 report is transmitted to the home Internet service provider over the Internet using File Transfer

3 Protocol (FTP).

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